



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )

Satoru OKADA )

) Group Art Unit: 2621

Application No.: 09/614,584 )

) Examiner: Duy M. Dang

Filed: July 12, 2000 )

) Confirmation No.: 2307

For: IMAGE COMBINING AND )  
OUTPUTTING APPARATUS THAT )  
ADJUSTS THE BALANCE )  
BETWEEN THE IMAGES BEING )  
COMBINED )

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability issued in connection with the above-identified application included an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. The Statement refers to the wording "wherein the attribute information shows a post-adjustment size to be used for the adjustable images and the size adjustment unit makes the sizes of the at least one adjustable image approximately equal to the post-adjustment size shown by the attribute information."

Applicant objects to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance at least to the extent the comments are intended to imply that Claims 1, 8 and 14 each recite the above-noted language verbatim. That is not the case -- Claim 1 recites "wherein the attribute information includes a post-adjustment..." and Claims 8 and 14 recite "wherein the attribute information includes second size information showing a post-adjustment size for the second image; the size adjusting means magnifying or

reducing the second image to make the size of the second image approximately equal to the post-adjustment size shown by the second size information." It is thus understood that the comments in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, though not reciting verbatim, were intended to refer to the language recited in Claims 1, 8 and 14 and nothing more.

Based on at least the observations set forth above, it is submitted that the independent claims should not be interpreted as reciting anything different than that which the claims themselves set forth.

Should the Examiner have any concerns regarding the comments in this paper, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 6-14-05

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